

**ENGINEERING DIRECTIVE**  
CHIEF ENGINEER**TEMPORARY PRECAST CONCRETE MEDIAN BARRIER**

Effective immediately for all projects under design and/or construction:

Temporary Precast Concrete Median Barrier is to be used on all construction projects where positive control of traffic and protection of construction zones is required. Locations for the use of temporary median barrier are part of an approved Traffic Management Plan included in the project documents. Because concrete median barrier is designed and crash tested to safely redirect errant vehicles, the dimension of the barrier shape above the roadway surface is critical.

The dimensions of temporary and "permanent" barrier have different base thicknesses when placed on the roadway surface. Temporary concrete median barrier is fabricated with a 75 millimeter (3") base above the road surface. "Permanent" concrete median barrier is normally fabricated with an additional 255 millimeters (10") of base thickness to allow for setting below grade. Concrete barrier has only been crashed tested and approved for use in the 75 millimeter (3") base configuration. Setting the 330 millimeter (13") base concrete barrier in a temporary location on the roadway surface, may result in uncontrolled redirection of vehicles hitting this taller barrier.

Therefore, in no case, are "permanent" concrete median barrier contract items to be substituted for temporary concrete median barrier contract items for use during project construction phases. Contractors shall be directed to use temporary concrete median barrier for traffic control and construction zone specified on the Traffic Management Plans and related project documents at the unit price bid for these items.

In addition, the following shall be added to all project Special Provisions for Items 853.2 Temporary Precast Concrete median Barrier and Item 853.21 Temporary Precast Concrete median Barrier R&R:

"Permanent" Concrete Median Barrier (Items #s\_\_\_\_) shall not be substituted for this item.